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**Annual Meeting of the American Coloni-
zation Society.**

THE Eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour on the Coast of Africa, was held on Saturday evening, the 19th inst. in the Hall of the House of Representatives. The assemblage, including a large proportion of Ladies, was uncommonly numerous, and not only filled all the seats and standing room on the floor of the House, but comprised a large number of individuals, who were seated in the Gallery—at once bearing testimony to the interest felt in the objects of the Society, and the expectations entertained of the evening's proceedings.

At seven o'clock, the Chair was taken by the Hon. HENRY CLAY, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, and, after a Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Laurie, the following list of Delegates from Auxiliary Societies, was read by the Secretary.

From the State Society of New Hampshire.

The Hon. SAMUEL BELL.

From the State Society of Maine,

The Hon. ALBION K. PARRIS.

From the State Society of Vermont.

The Hon. Mr. SEYMOUR,

The Hon. DANIEL A. BUCK.

From the State Society of Ohio.

The Hon. ELISHA WHITTLESEY—President of the Auxiliary Society, Canfield, Trumbull County, Ohio.

The Hon. PHILEMON BEECHER,

The Hon. JOHN DAVENPORT,

The Hon. WILLIAM M'LEAN,

The Hon. JOHN WOODS.

From Washington County Society, Pennsylvania.

The Hon. JOSEPH LAWRENCE.

From the Society of Petersburg, Virginia.

The Hon. Mr. ARCHER,

THOMAS ATKINSON, Esq.

From the Richmond Society, Virginia.

Chief Justice MARSHALL,

The Hon. JOHN TYLER,

ROBERT G. SCOTT, Esq.

From the Society in Alexandria, D. C.

Rev. J. CORNELIUS,

GEORGE JOHNSON, Esq.

From the Society of Piqua County, Ohio.

The Hon. WM. M'LEAN.

From the Society at Cleveland, Ohio.

The Hon. MORDECAI BARTLEY.

From the Wilmington Union Colonization Society, Delaware.

The Hon. KENSEY JOHNS, Jun.

From the Society of Lexington, Ky.

The Hon. JAMES CLARK.

From the Wheeling Society, Virginia.

The Hon. ISAAC LEFFLER.

From the Talbot County Society, Maryland.

Hon. JOHN JEEDS KERR.

From the State Society of Maryland.

C. C. HARPER, Esq.

J. H. B. LATROBE, Esq.

From the Society at Lynchburg, Virginia.

J. B. HARRISON, Esq.

A letter was received by the Secretary, apologizing for his non-attendance, from WILLIAM H. DILLINGHAM, Esq. appointed as a Delegate by the Chester County Society, Pennsylvania.

The Secretary, the Rev. R. R. GURLEY, then read the Report of the Board of Managers, detailing the progress of the Society within the last year, in improving and extending the settlements of Liberia, in the acquisition of new Territory by purchase and negotiation, from the native Chiefs; the rapid advance that had been made in the obliteration of prejudices formerly entertained against the Society by citizens of various portions of the country; an important increase of funds, raised from the munificent contributions of philanthropic individuals; and the increased and increasing desire among those, for whose benefit the Society was organized, to embrace an opportunity of joining the Colony.

Mr. C. C. HARPER of Baltimore, then rose, and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Report be printed, and that the thanks of the Society be presented to the Board of Managers.

At no former meeting of the Society, Mr. Harper said, had we so much reason, as the Report justly affirms, to be gratified with the result of our labours, or could look forward at so cheering a prospect for the future.—Indeed, Mr. Chairman, through the zealous and able exertions of the Board of Managers, the practicability of founding, on the coast of Africa, Colonies that shall maintain a hold and flourish, has ceased to be a matter of discussion. It has been demonstrated. At least it has been demonstrated to our satisfaction: and we are justified in persevering. If any one still deny the possibility or likelihood of such an establishment, we must no longer reason with him on abstract principles or from ancient examples, but answer his theories with facts. In our career of success we have, indeed, outstript the most sanguine anticipations; we have disappointed the most confident predictions of evil. A prosperous, and, compared with the surrounding nations, a powerful community, created by the hands of this Society, does ex-

ist on the coast of Africa. I have seen several of its citizens: I have heard its voice across the Atlantic.

However difficult and doubtful the accomplishment of such an enterprise may have seemed to many, it was, to my apprehension, the most easy in our whole design. It was merely a physical exertion. But, Sir, what must have at first repressed your hopes and risen like an insuperable obstacle in your path, was the uncertainty whether you could prevail upon any coloured persons to be the objects of so novel and dangerous an experiment, and whether the charity of the public would continue to supply you with the means of making it. Confiding in the dictates of your conscience and in the holiness of your cause, you boldly advanced to the attempt. Your pious reliance, like that of the Apostle of old, was rewarded: you walked upon the indurated waters, and mountains stooped before you into plains. Your designs have been understood and appreciated by those for whose benefit they are chiefly intended; and many hundreds more than you can or would now send, daily apply for emigration. Far from shuddering at the thought of leaving the comfortable fireside among us, for a distant and unknown shore yet covered by the wilderness, they have preferred real liberty there, to a mockery of freedom here, and have turned their eyes to Africa, as the only resting place and refuge of the coloured man, in the deluge of oppression that surrounds him.

At the same time, but much more rapidly, the number of our friends among the whites has immensely increased in every part of our country.—The feeble gush of yet doubting charity, which enabled you to take the first steps in the experiment, has become a constant stream with a thousand growing tributaries. From the South, where we feel the evil; and from the North, where they only behold it; from the sea-board, where we are approaching the condition of older nations; and from the remote interior, where civilized man is yet warring with the primeval forest; every hour brings applause for your exertions and prayers for your success. Individuals, companies, states, swell the chorus of approving voices.

So it must ever be, Sir, with this undertaking. It is in harmony with the best and noblest feelings of the human heart; and the mind itself expands and glows in the contemplation of its great and various merits. You must alter our nature, before you can make us indifferent to African Colonization. Before you can arrest its course, you must stifle the press and lay an interdict on the liberty of speech. Already the cool and calculating statesman finds himself labouring by the side of the enthusiastic devotee; and the secluded man of science attains by argument the same conclusion, to which feeling impels the multitude. It is thus we have united in our ranks men of all capacities, all places, all denominations. We have gone to the meetings of the learned and astute; and they have favoured us. We have gone to the primary assemblies of the people; and they have favoured us. The people, Sir, are the source alike of revenue and law.—

To them have we gone. We have called upon their philanthropy, their patriotism, their religion: they have offered us their hearts and purses.—Our agents have penetrated every district of the country, to explain our views, to embody those who approve, to convince or persuade those that are opposed, and to convert the irregular and precarious donations upon which we have hitherto subsisted, into a concerted system of regular and steady contribution. The most superficial observer may perceive, that African Colonization has become an object of more earnest attention and more lively interest with the people. Let us continue to apply for aid to that sure and inexhaustable source. In a few short years, the public mind will be thoroughly imbued with our project. Then, nothing that we may elsewhere reasonably ask can be refused.

The objects of the Society and the means by which they are to be effected, I shall not now enumerate nor defend. They are, or ought to be, sufficiently understood, after the many eloquent explanations that have resounded within these walls and reverberated throughout our vast country. Objection after objection has bowed and yielded to the extension of opinions in our favour. For the feasibility of our designs, I may refer the incredulous to Liberia, and to the sentiments that are manifestly beginning to actuate so many thousands of our fellow citizens; for their reasonableness and honesty, I appeal to the illustrious names that adorn our list of officers and members.

Such, Sir, was the origin, such are the conditions and prospects of your benevolent scheme. Such may they ever be! Thus far we have succeeded. We are the guardians of a nation in the bud,—a miniature of this Republic,—a coloured America on the shores of Africa. To whose exertions do we owe the past, and to whose exertions must we look for the further prosperous advancement of our cause? To the Board of Managers. To the Board of Managers, then, I move, Sir, that the thanks of the Society be presented; and that their Report be printed.

Which was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. LATROBE then addressed the Society.

MR. CHAIRMAN:—After the able and eloquent Report of the Board of Managers, which we have just heard read, and after the remarks of my fellow representative from the Society in Maryland; it would be only trespassing upon your time to dwell upon either the present condition, or the past history of our Society's existence. The past has been fraught with difficulty, and the present is replete with glorious promise: Both make us acquainted with our power, but admonish us, that we have, as yet, taken only the first steps in the great work, which we propose to accomplish. The establishment of *one* colony has been happily effected.—The doubtful experiment has equalled the most sanguine expectations; but the one channel thus opened, will never be alone sufficient to receive that population,

thirty thousand of which must be annually removed before any impression can be made upon the increase.* Other tracts of territory must be obtained, other colonies must be established. I therefore, Sir, offer the following resolution.

Resolved, that the Board of Managers be directed to ascertain in the course of the ensuing year, if possible, the practicability of obtaining territory, for colonial settlements at Cape Palmas, and the Island of Bulama, on the S. W. Coast of Africa.

An inspection of the maps of Africa, will satisfy you, Mr. Chairman, of the importance of these two points, with reference to the future operations of the Society: and their commercial advantages being great, an early attempt to secure them, may perhaps prevent their falling into other hands, and enable the Society to use them, when the time shall have arrived, at which they may be used with advantage. That we are advancing prosperously at present, should not satisfy us. The spot on which we have founded our Colony was admirably selected; and so long as emigration continued in its present limited state, that spot would be sufficient for all our wants. The time however will arrive, when the five hundred emigrants, who sailed for Liberia, in the course of the last year, will have increased to thrice as many thousand; and more places than one must be provided, at which their landing may be effected, at which that sickness must be undergone, which is the lot of all strangers, of all colours, in Africa. The great cities of our sea-board would, and do, without inconvenience, receive an annual emigration of many thousand each; because, in a few days, every emigrant obtains employment, and from the moment that he sets his foot upon our shore, is able to support himself and family. But in Africa, the emigrants to *its* cities must remain, sometimes for weeks, in the hospital, and months must elapse before they can perform the labour to which they have been previously accustomed. This, therefore, makes a very serious difference between our seaports and those of Africa, with regard to the number

* The annual increase of the coloured population of the United States, slave and free, is estimated by Mr. Clay at 52,000, (see his address at the 10th annual meeting of the American Colonization Society) from which, subtracting those who never attain the age of puberty, and those over fifty, as not adding to the increase, 30,000 may be said to be the number necessary to be removed annually, to diminish the coloured population. The annual increase of the free blacks is only 6,000, and the removal of this number annually may be soon accomplished. But experience has shown, that the number of emancipated slaves will bear a large proportion to the free persons who are removed; and this fact leads us to look forward to the time, when the gradual emancipation of the slaves will make them as much the objects of the Society's labours as are the free people at present: and regarding the Society, therefore, as the instrument for removing, *with the consent of all parties, ultimately*, the whole coloured population of the United States, the increase of the whole, and not of a part, has been assumed.

of emigrants, which they would respectively be able to receive and support, and it is not a fair argument to say, that because Boston or Baltimore might receive twenty thousand emigrants, without inconvenience, that Monrovia, with an equal population, could do the same. Looking forward, therefore, to the time, which is most confidently anticipated by us all, when the annual emigration from this country shall amount to twenty-five or thirty thousand, and anxious to provide for its reception in Africa, I have moved the resolution which has been read.

Cape Palmas is that part of Africa where the coast, after pursuing a course due East and West from the Bight of Biafra, bends off in nearly a North-West direction, and passing by Liberia, continues in an almost uninterrupted line to Cape Roxo. The Island of Bulama, in the mouth of the Rio Grande, is near the other extremity of the South-West Coast, within a short run from the Cape de Verds, and one of the points of the coast most easily made by vessels sailing from this country.

By possessing Cape Palmas, we would hold the commercial key of all the South Coast of Africa, and the countries immediately in the interior, down as far East as the Bight of Biafra; and a Colony there, would in a few years become a great depot for all the articles of foreign produce and manufacture, which would be required by inhabitants of the nations Eastward of the settlement. This will be the effect of a physical cause, which is certain and unchanging in its operations. The trade winds, pursuing the general outline of the African coast, render a return Northward from beyond Cape Palmas, along the coast, extremely difficult at all seasons of the year, and more particularly so in the rainy season, when the difficulty of taking observations and the numerous and varying currents prevent vessels from knowing their exact situation, and expose them to the constant danger of shipwreck. From Cape Palmas, or any point to the *Northward*, it is comparatively easy to return to the Cape de Verds, and so home, at all times: but Cape Palmas once passed, the danger and difficulty commenced, and a disastrous shipwreck or a shattered and ruined vessel is too often the consequence of a return voyage from a point beyond it. Were a settlement made at Cape Palmas, it would, like Monrovia, soon become the resort of the surrounding nations; and merchants would prefer leaving their goods at such a market, than running the risks of proceeding further Eastward, even with the hopes of enhanced profits. Paths would first be made, highways would take their place, until the uncivilized nations of the Ivory Coast and Gold Coast, passing by the feeble settlements of Cape Coast and d'Elmina, would resort to meet civilization at the nearest point of safe approach, the Americo-African City at Cape Palmas. A great and prosperous trade would be the consequence; and the facilities of gain would soon fill the new settlement with industrious inhabitants. Besides the commercial advantages of Cape Palmas, its road and anchorage are said to be the best between Montserado and the Voltu; and the surrounding country is

rolling and fertile, intersected with numerous small streams, fit for the erection of mills. Being the Southern extremity of the South-West Coast, it will form also a natural boundary to that Empire, which we all hope will one day arise in Africa.

The other position is the Island of Bulama. This Island is seventeen miles long and nine wide, rising gently from the shore to a considerable elevation in the centre. The harbour is one of the best on the whole line of African coast, and the great rise of the tide offers every facility for the erection of mills. The fogs are less heavy than further down the coast, and the rainy season is a month shorter than at Cape Montserado. In 1793 it was taken possession of, by a company of English merchants; but the dissolute character of many of the settlers, and their want of common care of their health, produced a sickness which caused the ultimate abandonment of the Island. Since that time it has remained unoccupied, and unclaimed by any civilized power. The Rio Grande, in which it is situated, runs through the richest and most fertile part of Africa. The country visited and described by Park, lies upon its waters; the sources of the Senegal and the Gambia are within a few days' journey of its head; as are also the head waters of the St. Paul's, on which we already have a settlement. Besides this, the mysterious river of Africa, whose very existence was so long a matter of doubt, and whose mouth has hitherto defied search, and baffled curiosity, is known to flow not far distant from the sources of the Rio Grande, and would pour its own wealth, and that of its tributaries, through this last channel, if we possessed a settlement upon it. Vessels sailing from America always make the Cape de Verds, and from thence, Cape Roxo; then, gaining a sufficient offing, they bear up for Liberia. A settlement therefore at Bulama would materially lessen the length and difficulty of the voyage to our African colonies; and from the greater similarity of its climate to the climate of the United States, would be the best spot for those emigrants, who, coming from North of the Potomac, are less able to bear the heats and fogs of an African atmosphere, than their Southern brethren. Between Bulama and Liberia, is the colony of Sierra Leone, which the utter impossibility of sustaining, unless at a great expense of life, will ultimately cause the British to abandon—and which, even if it is not abandoned, must become a part of the Americo-African nation, as the increasing settlements of Liberia and Bulama enclose and embrace it. Once firmly fixed on the waters of the Rio Grande, we may deem ourselves in possession of those of the Senegal and the Gambia; having dependant on our trade the nations near the head of the Niger; and, if the supposition as to the course of the St. Paul's be correct, enjoying an easy inland water communication with the present capital of our possessions. From the Senegal to Cape Palmas will then be our own; and we have only to cast our eyes upon the map to see the admirable frontier, which will be thus formed for our possessions,—a frontier including the mouths of the rivers Gambia, Rio

Grande, Nunes, and Pongos, Sierra Leone, Cape Mount, Liberia, and last and among the most important, the Kroo nation, the native seamen of Africa,—a frontier easy of access from this country, and affording in its rivers, roadsteads, and harbors, facilities for the most extensive commerce.

It may be said that a jealousy of the advantages at which we are grasping, and which, if we proceed, we will obtain, will cause the interference of other nations: and that the Senegal, the Gambia, the Rio Grande, and Cape Palmas, will be previously occupied, or wrested from our hands;—that other settlements than those of the free blacks of America, other flags than the stripes, and cross of the Colonization Society, will wave upon this coast. Sir, where is the flag of Portugal, the flag of France, the flag of Holland? Sir, these flags, if they wave at all, wave over a few tottering ruins,—the mouldering tomb-stones of the soldiers, who landed and settled beneath these banners, and who found their graves ready yawning to receive them, in the first moments of their arrival. Where is even the flag of England? It waves still at Sierra Leone; but that Colony is one great lazaret-house for the Europeans who visit it. Yet Portugal, and France, and Holland, and England, started in the race with high hopes, and appeared determined on success. Nature, however, was opposed to them. Their population sunk before the climate of Africa; and the consequence was, that the settlements were soon abandoned, or weakly and unprofitably, and, I may say, cruelly, maintained. This can never be the case with our emigrants and our settlements. Had the climate of America been to the pilgrims, as that of Africa is to the French or Portuguese, or to the *white* man, no matter what his nation or country, America never would have been settled. We, Sir, are about to pour forth, from America to Africa, pilgrims, to whom the climate is as genial as was that of New England to our forefathers:—Pilgrims too, urged on their way by motives more strong, by far, than those, which brought our ancestors to America. Those who will be *our* settlers in Africa are returning to their fathers' homes; and believe me, Sir, the puny and sickly colonies, which the jealousy of any nation under the sun may establish in Africa, will never be able to compete with, or to stand before the healthy and vigorous population, which will be transplanted from our shores. The white man must become tired of filling the vacancy, which death makes among his fellows; and the deed of Colonizing Africa will fall, where Heaven has appointed it to fall, on the free coloured people of America. Talk not then of any European nations holding the mouths of the rivers emptying round the great Cape of Western Africa;—give *us* but the possession of a communication with their head waters, by means of a settlement on the Rio Grande, and the elastic pressure of our coloured population will ultimately exclude all other people. This advantage, Sir, consisting in the physical constitution of our emigrants, is one, which will enable us to carry into effect any operation in Africa, which the Society may deem fit to commence.

It may be said, that the present motion is premature, and that the time has not yet arrived for making settlements at the places which I have mentioned. But that the purchase of territory, the erection of buildings, and the *gradual* increase of the population, are things which have retarded the settlement of Monrovia for the last six years, during which time its population has only reached twelve hundred. Although our experience may enable us to make the settlements proposed in a shorter time, and in a safer manner, by taking the first settlers from among the already acclimated colonists; yet many years must elapse, before they can attain the size of Monrovia. Had we three such settlements as this last, we might send to them in the course of the present year, fifteen hundred emigrants. But, as it is, had we millions, it would be the height of madness, to send a number sufficient even to double the population of our only settlement. The number of emigrants must depend upon the capacity to receive; and this again is dependent upon the quantity of vacant land in the neighbourhood of, and the means of employment within the Colony. It is the true policy of the Society to increase its settlements slowly. The number of property holders, and those interested in the preservation of order, should always exceed the number of new emigrants, who being usually destitute of property, or means of support, may be easily persuaded, or forced, into any measures, which may supply their present wants, or gratify their momentary excitement. Several years must elapse, before Monrovia can receive more than one thousand emigrants annually.—Perhaps if emigration were entirely suspended for a year, it would be the better for the Colony. Many years must elapse before the new settlements, if made, will be able to receive and support as many as we now send to Monrovia. It is not our policy to press Colonization. If we load our settlements, we will remove more free blacks for the moment, to Africa; but we will create discontent, and may materially retard, if not prevent subsequent emigration. The more numerous then are our settlements, the greater will be the number of emigrants that can be removed,—the greater will be the capacity to receive them in Africa; and, more markets for intercourse with fertile districts being opened, the greater will be the commerce with the country, and consequently the greater the facilities of transportation. The communication now established between the Colony, and its dependencies at St. John's, Bassa and Sesters, is maintained altogether by water, and so it may be with the proposed settlements: therefore the difficulty of communication, or the remoteness of the points cannot well be urged as an objection.

So far from the present time being premature for negotiations with the natives, for the purchase of territory on which to establish Colonies, it would seem that none could be more propitious. The British government has nearly succeeded in destroying the slave trade between the Gambia and Cape Mount, and between Cape Palmas and the line. The natives therefore, feel the loss of the market which they have heretofore had for their

slaves; being now compelled to carry them across the desert to Tripoli, or Southward as far as Congo; thus increasing the horrors of that, which has ever been so dreadful. The slave trade, therefore, is fast becoming unprofitable:—when it is quite so, it must cease; and this time, when its gains are so doubtful, appears most fit to establish Colonies, where the natives of the coast where it has been hitherto carried on, may obtain the products of civilized communities, in return for the lawful articles of commerce, the produce of their soil.

One thing, Sir, is certain, that in order to attain the great end of this Society's labours, the emigration under its auspices, must amount annually to thirty thousand, and upwards. This time is perhaps far distant, and the children of our sons' children, may perhaps only live long enough to witness it. But the remoteness of the period should not stay us in the preparation which may hasten its arrival. That preparation is the founding of settlements upon the coast of Africa; settlements, with such advantages in a commercial point of view, as shall make it the interest of the free coloured people to remove to them and support them. The number of emigrants were during the last year, more than treble the number sent the year before, and the same ratio of increase will soon bring us to the time, when our present Colony will not be able to receive those, whom our increased means and their own inclinations will enable us to transport. For this time I would provide. Congress may refuse its aid; the States may refuse theirs; but the seed is already sown, and the refusal of the National or State Legislatures to afford pecuniary assistance, cannot retard the harvest. The simple facts of the independent existence of a civilized nation of coloured people, on the coast of Africa, enjoying the fulness of virtuous liberty, governed by their own laws, administered by their own kind; and the abject state, in which the same race continues in this country, will cause the present stream of emigration to swell into a mighty and resistless torrent, sweeping on across the Atlantic; and the facilities of transportation afforded by the immense commerce, which must one day exist between the countries, will almost unaided bring about the great end of our labours. The Northern negro will find a home at Bulama; he from the Middle States will settle on the St. Pauls'; and the Southern slave, enfranchised by the liberal philanthropy of his master, will regain his father's home in the neighbourhood of Cape Palmas.—Then, Sir, shall we have accomplished our scheme, and with the blessing of the Almighty, have rendered unto Africa, that which is Africa's.

Agreed to.

Mr. HARRISON, from the Society of Lynchburg, Virginia, then rose and said:

I beg the ear of the Society for a few moments, while I presume to add to the rich fund of zeal and confidence which the Report of the Board has

opened to us, the contribution of the Auxiliary Society which I represent. I am instructed to assure this meeting of resolute co-operation and cause of increasing hope, from a quarter not among the least interesting to the friends of African Colonization, I mean the central part of Virginia.— Equally removed as Virginia is from that hardy disregard of the opinions and prejudices of others, which from some parts of the North has alarmed the temperate every where, and from that susceptibility of nervous alarm which disquiets our more Southern neighbours, they who know her best already predict that from her borders shall come out the most useful assistance; and the most enduring encouragement to the plan, whose yet infant years we are this day watching over:—For I take it for granted that that aid which is to be most efficient, will have to arise in the slave-holding states themselves. I trust that within any compartment of this temple of American patriotism, the voice of praise to Virginia will be thought no alien sound. Let me then speak of her as she is: proud and self-balanced, yet she boasts not that independence of the moral sense of the world, which is among the examples of this age; and they who boast this independence, delude themselves much when they imagine the general feeling of Virginia to be similar to their own: she is above fear, because she is without reproach. Ambitious the world calls her, yet when in power careful only for others; irritable the world knows her to be, but hers is not the sensitiveness of selfishness. Without that enterprise and never-flagging industry, which is the every temper of New England, always ready for useful schemes and always onward; Virginia waits for sudden impulse within, or contagion from without, to induce her to profitable zeal and activity: but she is always ready-armed where patriotism and humanity call. Come but to her with proposals of philanthropic enterprise; let no disguise excite distrust—let her but be sure that the cause originates in holy honour, and moves towards ends which will “make ambition virtue”; and nothing shall make me doubt that she lends her heart to it as sincerely, as when she wore the sceptre and the laurel, and was first in all things. Meanwhile it is not matter of wonder that there have been some scruples in her mind about embarking in a scheme touching a source of contingent danger to her, until that scheme could be well understood, and its tendencies shown by experiment. Virginia and the South had a right to demand of us explicit avowals on several heads; and I am happy to believe that the votes often passed by the Society with reference to misrepresentations of its views, are the candid sentiments of every individual of the Society. The Society has reiterated the declaration that it has no ulterior views diverse from the object avowed in the constitution; and having declared that it is in nowise allied to any abolition Society in America or elsewhere, is ready whenever there is need to pass a censure upon such Societies in America. Perhaps, however, the most cogent appeal to Virginia, is to be made by showing her, that the Society was instituted in furtherance of a feeling excited by her Legislature, and

that the plan of this Association is exactly that originated by herself, in its object, in its scope, in its adjuncts, in its inevitable tendencies, and in its liability to possible collateral dangers. Nor was this plan rashly originated by herself; the *projet* had been shown through the state from March 'til December, and was finally adopted, with hardly a dissenting voice, in the General Assembly. But I forbear the farther use of this topic; I feel the incongruity of pressing on the sense of consistency of any body of men, by forcing on them the authorship of a noble plan, which receives the auspices of this day, and the guardian care of this august assembly. At all events, I think it is not premature for us to promise, that before many years, if the authorship of this plan imply responsibility, Virginia will be ready to bear it; if it impart honour, Virginia will claim it.

Perhaps, Mr. President, the day has passed by, when a few individuals can so tower above the world in talents, in loftiness of spirit, and in influence, as to make the age in which they live their own. Human nature has before this, won the highest places which fame can allot to individual greatness; and young ambition will seek in vain for that sphere of action and those fields of display, wherein humanity has been privileged to exhibit "the prodigality of heaven." But all is not taken from us; and human nature as a whole, is yet to be shown in higher elevation and nobler attitude. Society begins to be no longer a mass, but a combination of distinct atoms; all society is to become *individualized*. We are trusting this day in America to individual, undirected opinion: those influences which wise statesmen know are the only true "solidities of mortal power." We are waiting the gradual, healthy growth of a literature not pensioned, not patronised; of piety not upheld by law; and of patriotism guarded by little more than public opinion. It is left to us men of the 19th century to raise the universal character, to form the common mind to high designs, to tempt the whole into a co-operation of equalized merit, and to lend the mind of the whole to the progressive good of the whole. And to do this, the age offers us many great helps. The broad principles of general truth and justice are no longer left to grammarians and sophists in the shades of the schools, nor to the theorists and the oppositions in Parliament. Senates have listened to the high-sounding demands, the natural sentiments of ameliorated humanity; and the cold, the cynical, have shrunk into minorities that need not the trouble of counting. The Dundases and the Roses have shot their pointless jest, and put forth their hardy paradox; but the paradox has fallen before the powers and principalities of *Truth*, and the jest has sunk down to the earth. The policy and custom of governments are thus no longer a clog on public opinion. To this is to be added the striking truth, that the spirit of commerce is not now the avaricious, selfish thirst, it might once have been said to be; privileged as the rich merchant is by Providence to diffuse happiness, his class have acquitted themselves of their responsibilities by giving impetus and momentum to the best achievements

of the age; the earnestness that gives hope to others, and the self-persuaded zeal that gives success have come from the merchants. But it is yet wanting, and more in America than elsewhere, that richly talented men should take from that all-absorbing, all-disturbing theme, which tinges our thoughts and pollutes our feelings, something more than an hour of listlessness and leisure, to devote to the beneficent plans of the day. Sir, is the time never to come in America, when they into whom nature has breathed resistless eloquence and inspiring zeal, and added to these a lofty ambition, shall seek fame in some other path than political life? Half a century has now passed since our independence; yet he who dreams of eminence and renown here, still pictures to himself the lead of some triumphant party in this Hall; the proud security, the impregnable supremacy of the *majority*, or what is not less "worth ambition," the tenacity, the fortitude, the magnanimous constancy of the *minority*. Yet he who shall note a hundred years hence the good that America has done for the world, will pass by many a name now high in that career, and look with a smile that we may well envy, on the single white man, who now on the African coast, is devoting his life, his talents, and his affections, exiled from their natural objects, to rear up an enlightened commonwealth there, whose example is, one day, to tempt this nation to the greatest deed that humanity ever performed. And the deep tones of that voice which cheered the Society at its last assembling here, to my poor apprehension, Gentlemen, did then achieve a triumph of less dubious result, than when it gave pulsation to the faint heart of Southern America, to this time yet equivocal in her character, perhaps incompetent, perhaps unworthy.

When I think on the undoubted claims of this Society on the exertions of all classes, of those who are chiefly led by humanity, and alike of those with whom policy is the chief motive, on its unexceptionable harmless character to all men, and when I hear the cheering accounts from Africa, I no longer harbour a doubt of perfect success. There are two aspects of the Society: *first*, as it relates to the free blacks and offers them an asylum; *second*, as it relates to the slave, and offers an outlet to such as their masters may voluntarily manumit: to this last aspect, so harmless and so inviting to patriotism, are the chief objections laid. I shall not say a word now to vindicate it in either aspect. Let it only be said that most of those now hostile misunderstand our views:—I think they will soon receive light. All who are indifferent to us are so from want of attention to the great end proposed, which would else leave no patriot indifferent. Of these persons I am sure that before another ten years, we shall count on our side all the candid, the humane, the patriotic. And if I might divine something of the future, I would say, that after ten years to come, it will be with two classes of foes that we shall have chiefly to contend. The first is that number of men, not large I trust, who still look on their slaves in the light in which most men regarded them when the slave trade was legitimate. There are

not many such in Virginia. Almost all masters there assent to the proposition that when the slaves can be liberated without danger to ourselves, and to their own advantage, it ought to be done. Of those, wherever they are, who hold their slaves with that same sentiment which impelled the kidnapper when he forcibly bore them off, I know not how morality can distinguish them from the original wrong doers, pirates by nature, and pirates by civilized law. And if there are few such in Virginia, I feel assured that there are also few such any where in the South. The second class is not large either. It consists of men of respectable age, of strong peculiarities of mind, often of considerable ability, accompanied by invincible prejudices, among which is foremost a prejudice against every plan not originating with themselves; so that when they are in retirement from active life, and the world advances a step without their co-operation, or when the world having undertaken a work with their approbation, does not flag in it just *when the wind is east*, why these men are hostile forever! Spleen does the business with some, nerves with others; and thus many a Howard is lost to the world. Amiable philanthropists! The fop in Henry IV. would have been a soldier could salt petre have been dispensed with; so would you be Howards did not good humour form an essential *trait* in the character. Another and the most striking prejudice in their minds, is a disposition to discountenance that tension of feeling in many minds at once, which without philosophical precision is commonly called PUBLIC SPIRIT; a prejudice which desires every man to stay at home, and opposes indiscriminately all the active schemes of the day, founded chiefly on the opinion that if the state of society in America forty years ago could have been perpetuated, we should have secured the character most of all to be coveted. I think this last sentiment prevails no where so much as in the South. Sir, with all due admiration for certain individuals of the Revolutionary age, I think history does not present us such a picture of that time as to excite regret at its passing away, and particularly when I reflect what conception these persons have of the ancient character of their native states, and what they most admire therein. I neither regret as past the day when every man born in poverty felt it his duty to nature, to follow the handicraft of his father, nor when pride of blood, and wealth, were upheld by laws of descent and homage from the poor. I should be loth to believe that the character of America had reached its maximum under monarchical rule; I am sure it ought not to be so considered in Virginia.

That is true greatness of national character which is not without the free operation of all the agents of moral and intellectual excellence in constant impulse on it. Therefore a national character which cannot be preserved unless all but a few are to be dissuaded from seeking learning, or unless some bounds are put to the acquisitions of industry, or ambition made the privilege of a few; a national character which makes station depend on something else than merit, and poverty no necessary consequence of waste-

fulness, is not to be mourned over when it dies away. And nature is little sparing of such a state of things; she has been almost ruthless in the rapidity with which she has hastened its downfall in America. We live to see the overseer and the steward seated in the mansions of their former employers, and yet I believe the poor are in as good subordination every where as before: they are content, but contented not so much with what they have as with the great gain in wealth, in knowledge, and in consideration, which lies within easy reach. The busy spirit which in our time in America urges every man to try to better his condition, and so fills the land with struggling upstarts and successful *novi homines*, is only the same which leads them to unite their enterprise from time to time in behalf of objects not merely selfish. And in fact there is no situation in which a people, who are moral and industrious at their own firesides, each man attentive to his own concerns, are exhibited in so elevated a point of view, as when occasionally they unite in some great work of benevolence. Far from sneering at zeal when it inspires great masses at once, the wise statesman sees in it, the best guarantee for union in times of difficulty, the best school of practice for the patriotic virtues.

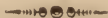
I hail these symptoms of life and health in the mighty heart of America! I hail the united feeling which has brought so many of us from our distant homes, and our personal concerns, to devote a day to the calls of national policy and humanity. It is not sickly sympathy which has brought us here, nor overheated enthusiasm which holds us together. Of all the achievements of this age, this will be the greatest; for it will arise out of calm conviction, a feeling of patriotism not yet pressed with fear of immediate danger, and a forecast that looks far ahead; and its object the whole world will regard of a magnitude scarcely ever exceeded. The Society has completed eleven years since its foundation: this day the Report puts to flight every remaining doubt of entire success, as regards the practicability of the plan. It is now plain that if the people of the U. States *desire the thing, it can be accomplished*. Already we may begin to think of Africa as regenerating herself by her sons returned to her bosom; already we may contemplate the humble commonwealth at Liberia as a fruitful stock, from which the deserts of Africa are to be made glad by the sentiments of a better nature. Sentiments not unworthy of the dying Cato when Africa received his blood, sentiments not unworthy of the stoic Lucan, or the christian Addison, may soon not be without some kindred bosoms there, where the barbarian and the pirate now possess sole right. But a dearer land to our hearts is too to be regenerated. A wretched class cursed with ineffectual freedom, is to be made free indeed, and an outlet is to be opened to those who will voluntarily disencumber themselves of the evil and the threatening ruin of another domestic pestilence. Public opinion must be the only agent in this: the most reluctant shall not be forced; the most timid shall not be alarmed by any thing we are to do. Hitherto and henceforward our plan has been and

shall be without constraint on any one, and never shall we offer any argument or invitation to humanity divorced from patriotism. To this truly quiet, unofficious spirit do I trust for bringing about the time when we shall be one homogeneous nation of freemen; when those great principles now true of us only in part, shall be true in the whole; and when the clear light now in our upper sky only, shall brighten the whole expanse of the American character. Mr. Harrison then moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That, after an experience of eleven years, this Society are this day more than ever convinced of the practicability of their plan, and assured that patriotism and humanity alike urge them on to renewed applications for contribution from the public and private wealth of the country.

Agreed to.

(*To be continued.*)



Report submitted to the Legislature of Virginia.

The following is the very interesting and valuable Report, lately submitted to the House of Delegates in the Virginia Legislature, by the Committee to whom were referred the memorials and petitions of the Societies auxiliary to the American Colonization Society. We believe that it has not yet received the consideration of that body. But we know too much of Virginia, to believe that she will finally refuse her aid to a design which so early received her sanction, which is now favoured by so many of her distinguished citizens, and which in its execution must no less promote her interests, than gratify her high and liberal spirit.

Report of the Committee to whom were referred the Memorials and Petitions of the Societies auxiliary to the American Colonization Society.

The committee to whom were referred the several memorials and petitions from the Societies auxiliary to the American Colonization Society, have, according to order, had the same under consideration, and having given to the subject that attentive reflection which its importance, and connection with the best interests of the Commonwealth demand, have come to the following report and resolutions thereupon:

The evils resulting from the condition of the free coloured population amongst us, early aroused the anxiety, and attracted the attention of our predecessors in the administration of this government. Resolutions at sundry times passed both branches of the Legislature, in secret session, to which your committee cannot more particularly allude, as the injunction of secrecy has never been removed. In pursuance of these resolutions, however, Mr. Monroe in 1801, being then Governor of Virginia, entered into a correspondence with Mr. Jefferson, the President of the United States, consulting him on the means of procuring an asylum beyond the limits of the United States, to which that description of our population could be sent. In consequence of this correspondence, and the approval by the Legislature, at its subsequent session, of the plan suggested by Mr. Jefferson, instructions were given to our Minister in London, to endeavour to make some arrangement with the Sierra Leone Company, by which they should receive such of our free coloured population as might be colonized there. All of this was in accordance with the secret resolutions of the Legislature, at its session of 1800, as is ascertained by a letter from Mr. Jefferson, giving an account of these transactions, annexed to a report made in the House of Representatives of the United States, March 3, 1827. Difficulties arising in the negotiation, and our own political relations assuming a threatening character, the subject was dropped for a time, but was again resumed by the Legislature, at its session of 1816-17, when peace was restored to the world, and a resolution passed almost unanimously, in the following words: "Whereas the General Assembly of Virginia, have repeatedly sought to obtain an asylum, beyond the limits of the United States, for such persons of colour as had been, or might be emancipated, under the laws of this Commonwealth, but have hitherto found all their efforts frustrated, either by the disturbed state of other nations, or domestic causes equally unpropitious to its success:

"They now avail themselves of a period when peace has healed the wounds of humanity, and the principal nations of Europe have concurred with the Government of the United States, in abolishing the African Slave Trade, (a traffic which this Commonwealth, both before and since the revolution, zealously

sought to terminate) to renew this effort, and do therefore resolve, that the Executive be requested to correspond with the President of the United States, for the purpose of obtaining a territory on the coast of Africa, or some other place, not within any of the States, or Territorial Governments of the United States, to serve as an asylum for such persons of colour as are now free, and may desire the same, and for those who may be hereafter emancipated within this Commonwealth; and that the Senators and Representatives of this State in the Congress of the United States be requested to exert their best efforts, to aid the President of the United States in the attainment of the above object: provided that no contract or arrangement respecting such territory shall be obligatory on this Commonwealth, until ratified by the Legislature.”

This resolution indicated, in the opinion of your committee, a fixed determination on the part of Virginia to undertake, and carry into effect this great scheme, even with her own unassisted means; and they think it probable, a reliance, not only on the great moral influence of a Commonwealth so deeply interested in this question, but also on her pecuniary aid, may have had considerable influence in founding the American Colonization Society. At all events, the formation of this Society, soon after the passage of the above resolution, having precisely the objects indicated by the Legislature, viz: the colonizing, with their own consent, the free people of colour on the coast of Africa; your committee cannot but consider, an event highly propitious to the views of the Legislature. Many difficulties must necessarily have occurred in any attempt to execute this design by Virginia alone. In the first place, if left to her public means, without any organized plan for eliciting private benevolence, pecuniary embarrassments might have enfeebled our exertions and frustrated the design, by withdrawing the necessary means in times of public difficulty. Secondly, had she been successful, each State might have had its Colony, which would necessarily have resulted in the extreme weakness of some, and probably in an unhappy jealousy and rivalry, which would have endangered all. Thirdly, had the Colony been undertaken by the State in her sovereign character, it must have been treated as her possession, supported and defended by her, and subjected to

all her relations of peace and war: such a dependency upon one only of twenty-four associated sovereignties, possessing individually no power to hold diplomatic relations with any power, no right of maintaining any separate naval or military force, in fine having no national existence as it regards foreign nations, would not only have presented a curious anomaly in our political system, but probably have met with insuperable difficulties in the execution.

The formation of the Society, by concentrating the exertions of the humane throughout the Union, to which may be added at pleasure, the munificence of the States, and by directing emigration to a single point, has obviated the two first objections.—As to the third, the Colony not being subjected to the sovereignty either of a State, or of the Union, ought not to be subjected to our relations of peace and war; and it is confidently believed, that nothing is wanting to secure its entire neutrality in any conflict we may hereafter have with a foreign power, but an understanding of its true condition. It is believed, that nothing but effectual aid on the part of this Government is wanting, to enable the Society to fulfil all the humane, as well as political views of Virginia, on this interesting subject.

Convinced of a coincidence in views between the Legislature and the Society, your committee next turned their attention, with much anxiety, towards its operations, its present condition, and its future prospects, to discover in these the evidences of its capacity to fulfil its designs.

They find, that but eleven years have elapsed since its formation; that a want of acquaintance with the actual condition of Africa, was then almost universal; that the Society had to commence its operations by obtaining accurate information of the country to be colonized; at a time when the anxious, impatient expectations of its friends, compelled it to do something towards the attainment of its objects, even before the knowledge necessary to prevent misfortune could be acquired. It is not surprising, therefore, that untoward events threw a temporary cloud over its commencement. Since then, a better knowledge of the country has enabled them to procure a territory healthful, fertile, and sufficiently extensive for all the purposes of such an asylum as has been contemplated by Virginia. Fortifications

have been erected, a town actually built, plantations opened, many public works completed, and such a number of Colonists seated there, as in the opinion of your committee dissipates all speculation as to the practicability of their plans. They are also convinced, that the Society have conducted their operations with so much prudence, as to give no cause of alarm to the holders of slaves, for the security of this property.

Your committee have next turned their attention to the internal condition of the Colony, to discover what hope it affords of improving the condition of that part of our population, proverbially degraded at home, upon whom it is intended to operate, could they be induced to embrace the humane views of the Society, and the Legislature. The first object of their inquiry, as most interesting to human enjoyment, was the health of the Colonists, and although from the mortality which has prevailed amongst the whites employed in this great undertaking, they are convinced the climate is peculiarly inimical to them, yet, since their removal to the present situation, the health of the blacks is believed to have been as good as is usually enjoyed by other Colonists. Persons removing from a cold, or temperate, to a tropical climate, must expect some sickness before they become acclimated, but your committee find here, the most humane and salutary arrangements, to lessen the danger and suffering incident to this change. Large and comfortable receptacles for new Colonists have been provided, where the constant attendance of a person skilled by long experience in the treatment of this disease, with all the medicines and comforts necessary to their condition, are furnished the Colonists upon their arrival, until they pass this period; such has been the success of this treatment, that amongst the last Colonists from Virginia, a mortality not exceeding three per cent. has occurred, and that falling exclusively upon very young children or very aged persons.—When this season of trial has passed, the health enjoyed by the Colonists is believed, from the reports of the agent and from other sources of information, not to be surpassed by the same population any where. When your committee compare the sufferings of the Colonists at Liberia, with those encountered in the first attempts to plant this great nation, they see abundant cause of gratitude to Divine Providence, rather than desponden-

cy. The first three attempts to colonize Virginia, entirely failed, and the Colonists perished almost to a man. The first permanent settlement was made at Jamestown in May, 1607, and consisted of about 100 persons; in the course of the year, they were reduced to 38; they were reinforced by the arrival of 120 persons, with provisions and instruments of husbandry. Great exertions were made by the proprietors to sustain this Colony, and in 1609, 500 emigrants arrived, yet in May, 1610, it consisted of but 60 persons. Fresh supplies of men and provisions were sent from England, and large sums of money expended in furtherance of the object, and yet in 1624, seventeen years after the foundation of the Colony, when the charter was vacated, the Colony consisted of but 1800 souls; although more than 9000 persons had been sent hither from England; and a sum exceeding 150,000*l*. (666,000 dollars) had been expended in the pursuit. Your committee will not consume the time of the House in detailing the disasters of New England, but will compare with this history of our own Commonwealth, a view of the African Colony. There have been expended by the Society about \$70,000. There have been transported from the United States in their vessels about 1000 Colonists. To these must be added about 160 re-captured Africans, sent back by the Government of the United States, who settled in the Colony, 175 natives rescued from slavers by the Colonists, and about 50 native children going to school in the Colony, making about 1385 souls. From the latest information your committee can receive, when those who are now on their way, and who are included in the number stated above, to have been sent out by the Society, shall have arrived, in eleven years from the formation of the Society, and six from the permanent location of the Colony, their population will consist of 1343* souls. Your committee are therefore by no means dissatisfied with the prospects of health to the Colonists.

This important point ascertained, your committee next turned their inquiries towards the security of the Colonists from hostile attacks. They find that in its infancy, when the military means

* The number stated in Mr. Gurley's letter, and published in the Report, was 1443. We have ventured to correct the error.—[*Editor*.

of the Colony were at their lowest, and their defences incomplete, two combined attacks were made upon it, by the native tribes, which were repelled with great spirit. Since then, their numbers have increased ten fold, their fortifications have been completed, their militia organized and disciplined, and provided as they are with the means, have on several occasions shown themselves not wanting in the will, nor the power to defend themselves. There is, too, ample evidence that the natives are pacific, that the moral influence of the Colony is rapidly increasing over them, and that the ties of mutual benefits, and commercial intercourse, have left among them but little inclination to disturb those relations of peace which have been established with their now powerful neighbour, even should they forget the lesson taught them, by its stern resistance in infancy. The power of the Colony itself; the presence of ships of war continually hovering in those seas to suppress the slave trade; and of commercial vessels trading to that coast, afford ample security in the opinion of your committee against piratical attacks.

With regard to territory, a large extent, embracing several navigable creeks and rivers, has been obtained, which is capable of producing corn, guinea corn, millet, rice, cotton, sugar, coffee, with other valuable products, and of sustaining horses, cattle, hogs, goats, sheep, and other useful animals, equal to the demands of a large population; and no doubt this may be extended as their wants may require it. The commerce of the Colony has increased to an importance which will surprise those who have never inquired into the subject; only two circumstances evincing which will be mentioned. From the reports of the Agent, Mr. Ashmun, who your committee take pleasure in saying, appears to be a highly intelligent, dispassionate, zealous, and pious man, it appears, the exports of the Colony for six months, from the 1st of January, to the 15th of June, 1826, amounted, in value, to \$43,980, upon which a profit was realized to the Colonists, of \$21,990. In the month of July of the same year, a cargo of goods, worth \$11,000, arrived at Liberia from Portland, which was sold and wholly paid for in ten days, the regulations of the Colony prohibiting, under pain of forfeiture, any imported goods being sold on credit. The result of this state of prosperity is, that every description of labour is

well paid, and a poor Colonist arriving without money or any trade, can, for his ordinary daily labour, command from 75 to 125 cents per day, whilst those who have good trades, receive \$2. As a further evidence of this prosperity, the Agent mentions the fact, that of the 142 re-captured Africans who arrived in August last, all had obtained, within seven days, such wages and employment in the Colony, as no longer to be a charge upon the Government. Notwithstanding these evidences of prosperity, the Legislature will perhaps be surprised to hear, that your committee have good reason to believe, that several of the Colonists have acquired fortunes of from five to ten thousand dollars each.

Satisfied on these important points, your committee next directed its inquiries to the political and moral state of the Colony, to discover if they were such as to promise a complete development of these physical advantages, and find, from the annual reports of the Society, and the accounts received from the Agent, that a form of Government has been adopted, with which the people are perfectly content, which extends to them perfect equality of rights and security of property, and in which they have as large a participation as is compatible with their present condition. The Society will doubtless extend this participation, as the Colonists become qualified to exercise new privileges, and by a wise system of instruction, are preparing them for it. Schools are established, and by law all the children are required to be educated. The effect, as the Agent reports, is, that there is no instance of a child five years old, unless it be some late emigrant, who cannot read; and how greatly the Colonists themselves appreciate this blessing, will be felt, when it is known they contribute \$1,400 yearly, to support the system.— Indeed, your committee have the authority of the Colonists themselves, in a late impressive address to the free persons of colour in the United States, for saying, that such is the equity with which the Government has been administered by the Colonial officers, such the liberty and equality of rights which prevails among them, such the effect of removing them from that continually depressing sense of inferiority, to which they have heretofore been exposed; that perhaps there exists no where a happier, or more contented community. From the reports of

the Agent, your committee feel justified in reporting too, a high state of morals in the Colony. Churches have been erected; sobriety, industry and good order prevail; and the fact is developed, that even this degraded population needs only the ordinary motives and incitements to exertion, to elevate their characters far above any moral worth we have been accustomed to assign to it.

From this review of the history, present condition, and future prospects of the Colony, your committee can feel no hesitation in earnestly recommending it to the free people of colour in Virginia, as a proper asylum for them and their children; and as holding forth to them, a fair prospect of that wealth, respectability and moral improvement, which in the United States they can never attain. They feel assured that no motives of policy could induce them to give this recommendation, did they not believe true feelings of philanthropy and benevolence towards that species of our population, supported them in it. They again most solemnly repeat to the free coloured people of Virginia their belief, that in Africa alone can they enjoy that complete emancipation from a degrading inequality, which in a greater or less degree pervades the United States, if not in the laws, in the whole frame and structure of society, and which in its effects on their moral and social state is scarcely less degrading than slavery itself. In Africa, there is a reasonable prospect of health, security for life and property, perfect equality of condition, a government, in the rights and benefits of which all participate, and ample means of acquiring by industry, independence, comfort, and even wealth.

Fully convinced of the benefits likely to accrue to our free coloured population from emigration to this Colony, your committee have next inquired into the motives of policy which should induce this Legislature to extend such pecuniary aid to this Society, as would enable them to transport those who may be disposed to go, and to hold out such motives as will be decisive with this population to remove thither. The evils resulting to us from their remaining here are but too well known, and as *policy* compels us to place impediments in the way of gratifying those feelings which often prompt to the emancipation of faithful slaves, *humanity* would require us to furnish some asylum to which

they may be sent, with benefit to themselves, and gratification to their benevolent owners. The prevalence of the free coloured population amongst us, has compelled the Legislature to engraft on its Criminal Code, provisions of peculiar harshness in relation to them, inconsistent with the general mild spirit of our laws; and the expense of these criminal prosecutions, forms no small item in our general expenditure. Your committee think also, that as part of a system of poor laws, a small sum annually applied to their transportation, would be both humane and politic. Great Britain, and perhaps other European nations, are seeking relief from the burden of their poor, by transporting at public expense, a portion of those incapable of obtaining subsistence at home, to other regions where it is more easily procured; and the same policy may be advantageous to us, with regard to unquestionably the most degraded part of our population, who can never amalgamate with the great body of the nation. The number of free negroes in Virginia, was, at the last census, about 37,000; the average increase may be set down at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. amounting to about 820. The whole cost of subsistence and transportation to the Colony is \$30, which would make the cost of transporting the whole increase of this population, about \$25,000 per annum. The situation of the Colony, however, renders so large an accession to their population at present, by no means desirable, and your committee believe a well concerted combination of public munificence, with private benevolence, united with a moderate tax on this species of population, to be applied exclusively to the aid of such as are willing to emigrate, would abundantly supply all the means that could now be prudently or beneficially used by the Society. The adoption of this plan is therefore earnestly recommended, as likely to contribute not only to the general, but really to the pecuniary interests of the Commonwealth.

There is one other circumstance to which your committee will advert, as connected with the policy of this measure. Any new avenue for our productions, must be greatly desirable, in the present embarrassed state of our commerce. Many of these Colonists going from the South, will carry with them many of our habits and wants. Their extended means of gratifying these will produce an increased demand for our products. Their trade

with the interior, which is rapidly extending, promises to open some market, particularly for our tobacco. Several small shipments of this article, and of flour, have already been made by citizens of Richmond, for which profitable returns have been made. By the late commercial regulations of Great Britain, the direct intercourse in our own vessels, from the United States to their Colony of Sierra Leone, is prohibited, whilst the vessels of Liberia would have free access there. The growth of the Colony then would not only create a great demand for nails, iron, lumber and building materials for themselves, but would afford the means of continuing a commerce with Sierra Leone, which must otherwise be lost. The returns for these cargoes would be gold dust, ivory, cam wood, palm oil, beeswax, and dye stuffs, derived from the trade with the natives, and at no distant day sugar, coffee and tropical fruits in abundance, the production of the Colony itself.

In every light then in which your committee can view this subject, they think it entitled to the aid of this Legislature.— They feel a pride in connecting Virginia with the very foundation of this great scheme of philanthropy, and see nothing in its progress to alarm, but much to elevate their hopes, not only of its ultimate success, but of its future benefits. In these views they are strengthened by the increased contributions the Society has received from a benevolent public, and the increased importance thus given to its operations. During the last year 533 new colonists have been sent out; 391 at the expense of the Society; the residue, consisting of re-captured Africans, transported at the expense of the United States. Nothing therefore but increased means, seems necessary, to give increased usefulness to their operations, and your committee beg leave to report the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to appropriate a small sum annually in aid of the Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour on the Coast of Africa.

2. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to provide by law for a moderate tax on the free people of colour in the State of Virginia, to be applied in aid of such as are willing to emigrate to Liberia, from this Commonwealth.

Maryland Colonization Society.

We are gratified to perceive with what resolution and energy the Maryland Colonization Society has since its reorganization, commenced exertions. We hope the influence of it may soon be felt in every county and village of the State. We copy the following account of its late proceedings from the Baltimore American.

Maryland Colonization Society, auxiliary to the American Colonization Society, January 24, 1828.

A meeting of the Board of Managers of the Maryland Colonization Society, was held this day, at Dr. Richard Steuart's.—Solomon Etting, Esq. was called to the Chair, and Charles C. Harper, appointed Secretary.

On motion of Peter Hoffman, Esq. it was

Resolved, That a number of copies, not exceeding 2000 of the "proceedings of a meeting of the friends of African Colonization, held in the city of Baltimore, on the 17th of October, 1827," be reprinted, with the "Address from the citizens of Liberia to the free coloured people of the U. States."

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to procure and superintend the publication.

The gentlemen appointed to constitute this committee were Edward J. Coale, J. I. Cohen, and Charles C. Harper.

On motion of Dr. Steuart, is was

Resolved, That three gentlemen be appointed in each ward, to obtain members for the Maryland Colonization Society.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to select and nominate those gentlemen.

This committee was made to consist of Messrs. Etting, Richard Steuart, E. G. Edrington, Edward Kemp, and C. C. Harper.

Resolved, That this committee be authorized to distribute "proceedings" when reprinted, in such manner as they shall think fit.

Resolved, That they be authorized to appoint, when they shall think proper, such professional collectors as may be necessary, and to allow them a reasonable compensation.

On motion of Dr. Edrington, it was

Resolved, That the committee on printing be directed to procure printed notices of meetings of this board.

Resolved, That the annual subscription of *one dollar* for each member, be due on the first Monday of May, in each year.

On motion of Mr. Kemp, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft by-laws for this board, and report them for examination at the next meeting.

The committee was made to consist of Rev. Dr. Wyat, Solomon Etting, Edward Kemp, Charles S. Walsh, Richard Gill, and Richard H. Douglass.

Resolved, That when the board adjourn, they adjourn to meet on the third Monday of February.

On motion of Mr. Steuart, it was

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be printed.

And the board adjourned.



North Carolina Colonization Society.

On the 28th ult. the annual meeting of the Raleigh Auxiliary Colonization Society was held at the Capitol in this city: the Rev. Dr. McPheeters in the Chair. On motion of Mr. Jonathan Parker, the title of the Society was changed to "*The North Carolina Society for Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States*," and the Constitution was amended so as to suit the change.

On motion of the Rev. Dr. Caldwell, it was

Resolved, That the American Colonization Society is worthy of the patronage and assistance of the citizens of North Carolina, and that this Society views with approbation the measure which has been adopted of presenting to the State Legislature the memorial of this Society.

In introducing this resolution, Dr. Caldwell took a comprehensive view of the objects and proceedings of this Society, proving it to be a Society founded in benevolence and wisdom, and calculated to produce the happiest effects, not only as it respects persons who take advantage of the generous offers held out to them for emigration, but to benighted Africa itself.

Col. William Polk was reelected President of the Society; the Rev. Dr. McPheeters and the Rev. Dr. Caldwell, Vice-Presidents. The other officers were reelected; and Jonathan Parker, of Guilford, was chosen one of the managers, in the place of the late John Haywood.—[*Raleigh Register*.

*Officers of the Bellbrook Colonization Society, Ohio.*James Bain, *President.**Vice-Presidents.*

William Edwards, | John Cramer.

Frank A. Cunningham, *Secretary.*John C. Murphy, *Treasurer.**Managers.*

Doctr. William Bell,		Jeremiah Gest,
David Buchanan,		Col. James Snodgrass,
James Clancy,		James Steele,
Thomas Neill,		John Sayer,
Simon Sparks,		James Snodgrass,
Joseph Beck,		David Buchanan.

*Officers of the Auxiliary Colonization Society, Lancaster, Ohio.*Hon. Elnathan Scofield, *President.*Rev. John Wright, *1st Vice-President.*— Michael J. Steck, *2d Vice-President.*— James H. Harris, *3d Vice-President.**Managers.*

Hon. Philemon Beecher,		Capt. Joseph Grubb,
Doctr. Robert M'Neill,		Jacob Claypool, Esq.
John Creed, Esq.		

Col. Samuel F. M'Cracher, *Corresponding Secretary.*Jacob D. Deitrek, Esq. *Recording Secretary.*J. Connel, *Treasurer.**Officers of the Canfield Colonization Society, Ohio.*Hon. Elisha Whittlesey, *President.**Vice-Presidents.*

D. L. Bostweck, Esq. | Isaac Barns, Esq.

Managers.

E. Newton,		C. Frethey,
E. Warner,		A. Kent,
C. R. Fowler,		J. Whetmore.

E. Wadsworth, *Corresponding Secretary.*W. H. Canfield, *Recording Secretary.*C. Fitch, *Treasurer.**Officers of the Full Creek Aux. Col. Society, Highland Co. Ohio.*Moses H. Gregg, *President.*Philip W. Spargur, *Vice-President.*Elias Overman, *Treasurer.**Corresponding Committee.*

Josiah Tomlinson,		Jacob Carson,
Absalom Sumner,		Richard Barret.
John Vanpelt,		

Moses Tomlinson, *Secretary.*

Resolutions of the Ohio Legislature.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives be requested to use their efforts, to induce the Government of the United States to aid the American Colonization Society, in effecting the object of their institution, which is so eminently calculated to advance the honour and interest of our common country.

Resolved, That the Governor be, and he is hereby requested, to forward to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, a copy of the foregoing Resolution.

EDWARD KING,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SAMUEL WHEELER,

Speaker of the Senate.

January 24, 1828.

SECRETARY OF STATES' OFFICE, }
COLUMBUS, OHIO, JAN. 26, 1828. }

I certify the above to be a correct copy of the original roll remaining in this office.

JEREMIAH M'LENE, *Secretary of State.*



The proceedings of our recent Anniversary, cannot fail to increase the public confidence in the utility of the objects proposed by this Society, and in the practicableness of these objects. The Report of the Board of Managers (now in the press) will show that much more has been accomplished during the last than in any preceding year; that in no other has the Colony made equal improvement, nor its friends in this country equal effort.

But the outfit and transportation of nearly four hundred emigrants, has not only exhausted our funds: it also compels us to make an appeal to our friends for the means of cancelling obligations which still exist against the Society. The number which embarked in the Nautilus (164) exceeded the expectations of the Board of Managers; yet, rather than abandon to disappointment those who had come from a distance to obtain a passage, it was

deemed right to presume somewhat upon the liberality of those, who have so often evinced their disposition to aid our cause; been so prompt to contribute when contributions were most necessary.

On the subject of the Colonization Society, the TRUTH begins to triumph. Every day brings evidence of its progress, and soon will it achieve a perfect victory.



Contributions

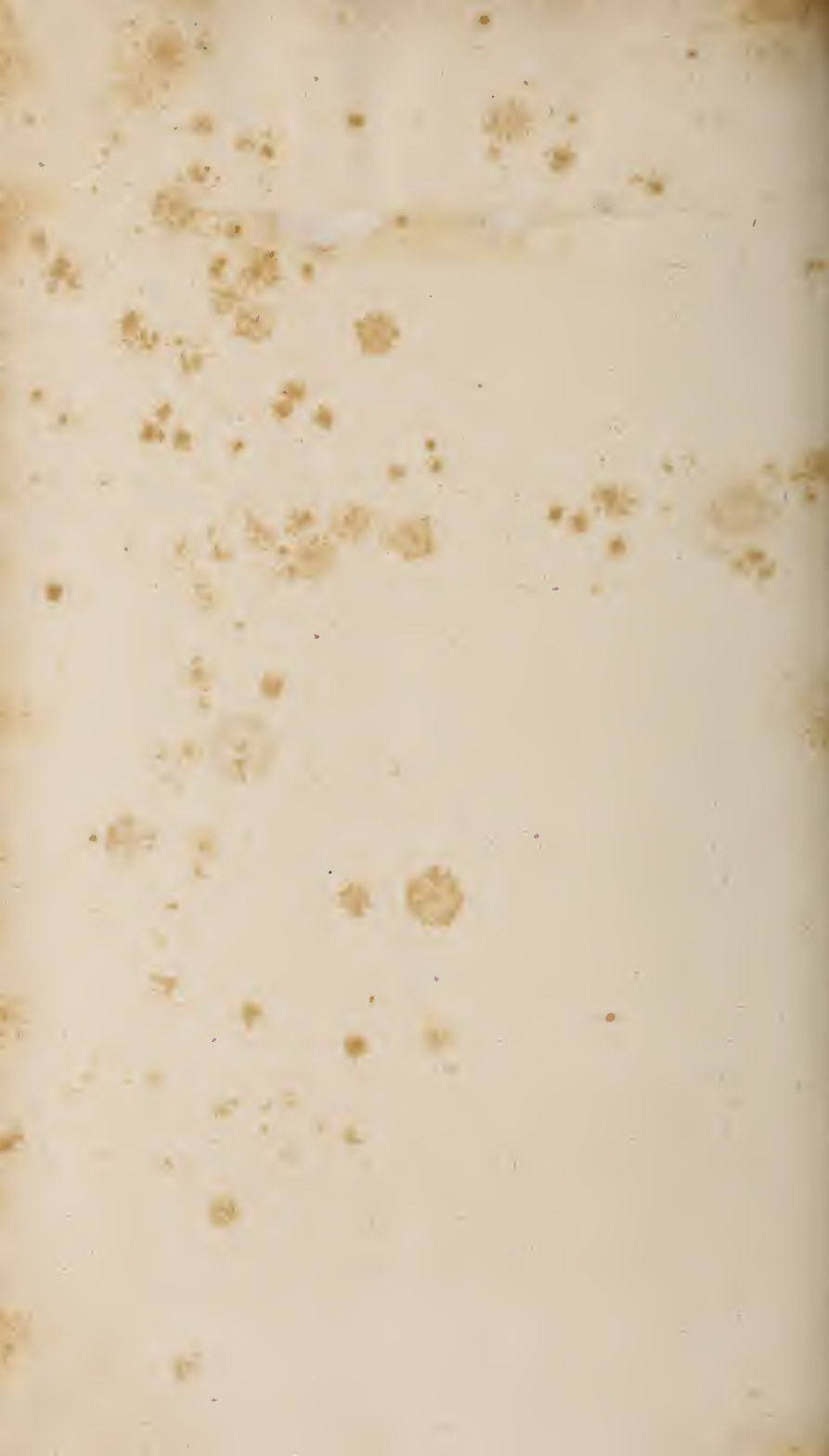
*To the American Colonization Society, from the 31st Dec. 1827,
to 19th Jan. 1828.*

From R. H. Douglass, Esq. Baltimore,	\$30
„ Hon. John Locke of Massachusetts, yearly contribution,	1
„ Benj. F. Taylor, Esq. Loudon county, Va.	5
„ Wm. Jenkins, as follows:—	
Collection in Methodist Church, Easton, Md.	\$5 91
A Lady of do.	1
Collections at St. Michael's, in Methodist Church,	3 62
	— 10 53
„ Aux. Society, Wheeling, Va. per R. M'Kee, Esq.	91
„ do. Washington co. Penn. per Hon. J. Laurence,	28 50
„ a Friend to the Scheme, Fredericksburg, Va.	100
„ Mrs. E. F. Francis, Bridgehampton, L. Island, per A. Francis,	5
„ the Repository,	54 60
„ Cath. I. Watson, Albany, N. Y. for transporting a col'd. child,	10
„ Eben. H. Watson, do. do.	6 40
„ Rev. H. Millan, Chester C. H. South Carolina,	11
„ collection in Presbyterian Church, Mercer, Mercer county, Pennsylvania, per Hon. S. Burton,	6
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	\$359 03
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Several sums have been received from the Rev. Moses Henkle of Ohio; but as the Treasurer's account, in the Annual Report of the Society, refers to the list in this number, brought up only to the 19th instant, the insertion of them is left for next month.



ERRATA.—The extract in our last number, page 312, from the Message of the Governor of Ohio, should have been ascribed to *Governor Trimble*, instead of Governor Morrow. Same number, page 319, for donation of \$30 from J. M. Garnet, Esq. read, *From the Liberian Society, Essex co. Va.* \$30.

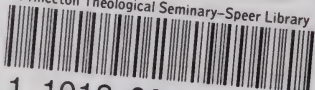


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